

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Toomer for indicating that Claims 8, 76 and 77 are allowed. The amendment to the claims simplifies the pending claims and leaves remaining only allowed Claims 76 and 77. The cancellation of any previously pending claims is not intended as a surrender of subject matter or disclaimer. Applicants request the mailing of a Notice of Allowance.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants submit concurrently herewith an IDS providing references cited in the opposition proceedings in EP 1226188, a foreign application corresponding with the present application. The IDS also provides any new references cited in the European opposition of EP1233990 which is a foreign corresponding application of related application 10/089,056. Applicants also submit herewith the decision of the EPO in the opposition proceeding in EP1226188 together with a German Language transcript of the oral proceedings dated October 19, 2007.

A Declaration by David Price submitted in the opposition proceedings of EP 1233990 is also submitted. The references identified in the Declaration by "D#" are referenced to the opposition proceedings previously submitted in this case.

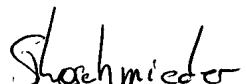
The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' U.S. representative should there be any further issues for discussion or comment in response to the Amendment or prior to any mailing of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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